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ABSTRACT

This book examines how popular science information resources contribute to the improvement of science literacy in the United States. Nearly 2,500 titles are recommended--70% published since 1990--representing all fields of modern science. This guide provides librarians, educators, and other information specialists with an understanding of science literacy, as well as the knowledge of the skills and principles necessary to evaluate works of popular science. Part 1 provides public, high school, and college librarians with a basic understanding of popular science information so that they can make better choices on behalf of their library patrons. The annotated bibliographies in part 2 are organized into nine subject areas, and represent the body of current popular literature for the entire discipline, including reference works, autobiography and biography, history of the discipline, and specific topics within the discipline. The bibliography recommends resources that could constitute a core science literacy collection. Subject areas include: general science; astronomy and space sciences; biological sciences; chemistry; mathematics; medicine and health sciences; natural history; physics; and technology and applied sciences. This work can be used for collection development, making reference recommendations, and designing programmatic learning activities and is intended for public, high school, community college, and college and university librarians, as well as for science teachers. Author, subject, and title indices and a list of book review source abbreviations are provided. (MAS)

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